The Cause of al-Shām is the Cause of Islam A Message by Shaykh Hamza Osama bin Laden

(may Allah preserve him)



In the Name of Allah, the Most Beneficent, the Most Merciful

All praise belongs to Allah, the Lord of the Worlds. I bear witness that there is none worthy of worship except Allah, the Benefactor of the Righteous. I bear witness that Muhammad is His Servant and Messenger.

May peace be upon him, his family and all his Companions.

To my beloved Islamic Ummah...

To our honorable people in our beloved Shām...

Assalamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuhu!

To those who rose up in rebellion against the tyrant, and declared at the top of their voices that this is an uprising for the sake of Allah alone...

You have offered and sacrificed everything you treasured in the Way of Allah and for the sake of restoring your glory and honor. You have offered your hearts, the most precious of your souls, the gleam of your eyes. Your condition speaks for itself in these words:

I meet difficulties as they cross my way

With a heart cognizant and patient

The era of grief shall pass

For it is impossible for the same situation to persist

Just as the era of bliss did

In the extant of a life short in span

You have stunned the world with your patience, endurance and Jihad, and with it you are writing a golden chapter in the contemporary history of the Muslim Ummah. Your patience has become a model to be emulated, your determination an example to be followed, and bravery is learned from you. May Allah reward you greatly on behalf of Islam and Muslims.

Our beloved people in Shām, the Land of Jihad and Ribaat: We are with you. We support you. We support your blessed Jihad to overthrow the tyrant, expel the occupier and establish the Shariah of Allah alone, with no partners to ascribe to Him.

We are with you... Your joy delights us, your happiness fills our hearts with pleasure, and your success and victories bring smiles and exuberance to our faces.

We are with you...Your hardship grieves us, your affliction makes our hearts bleed, and your pictures make our eyes overflow with tears. And we always ask Allah to bring you ease, give victory to you, support you and help you with special assistance from Him.

So be patient; may Allah give you victory. And be determined; may Allah make you steadfast. 'If you grieve, they grieve just as you do. But you hope for a reward from Allah which they do not hope for. And verily, Allah is All-Knowing, the Wise.' [An-Nisa: 104] As long as you hold on strongly to the two noble revelations [Quran and Sunnah], all I would advise you is to persevere in patience, for your promised abode is Paradise, with the permission of Allah.

So do not waver, nor grieve. Do not accept half-baked solutions, nor stop mid-way in your path before you have reached your destination, for this will be nothing but a waste of your tremendous sacrifices and a

premature termination of your brilliant revolution. Weigh your affairs in the scales of the Hereafter, your difficulties will seem trivial to you.

Do not be troubled by traversing the path of patience when the agony becomes intense

For today your patience is bitter, but tomorrow it will be sweet

How many overcame time with their patience, and achieved what they cherished

My Mujahid brothers in Shām!

To those who have defended their Religion, protected their people, lost their brothers and loved ones...

To those who have liberated imprisoned brothers and sisters...

To those who have eased the agony of their people...

To those who have broken the sieges....

I wish to offer a word of sincere loving advice... so accept it.

And I caution you out of fear and sympathy for you... so listen carefully.

As for the advice: Follow the command of Allah, 'And hold on strongly together to the rope of Allah and be not divided among yourselves.' [Aal-e-Imran: 103] Stick to the guidance of scholars and the Shuyukh of Jihad who want the best for you.

My beloved Mujahid brothers: Give some consideration to the oppressed men and women in the refugee camps. The mere sight of the camps should sharply increase your sense of responsibility. The refugee camp calls out: Here is merciless hunger...Here is sharp piercing cold...Here is life at its hardest.

Yet it reminds you: My suffering is endured...for the sake of overthrowing the tyrant. My tragedy pales in significance...for establishing the lasting Shariah of Allah. My affliction is mitigated...in the hope that you may create the conditions for an honorable and respectable life for my inhabitants.

So do not lay waste to its aspirations, my honorable brothers.

As for a loving and sympathetic word of caution, it is as follows: The battle which you are waging today is of immense significance and momentous consequences. Your enemy is exceptionally cunning and schemes day in and day out to outwit you, divide your ranks, disperse your strength and sow discord and disputes amongst you to completely uproot you. The enemy picks on each one of you separately. This demands from you extreme vigilance, deliberation, holding tightly together to the rope of Allah, to His Book and the Sunnah, and sidestepping the 'initiatives' launched by the enemy, for these are nothing but conspiracies.

We have seen the murderous occupier, stained with the blood of our women and children, killing you relentlessly, only to appear the next day in the garb of a sympathetic doctor coming to the rescue of an injured victim, or putting up the façade of a sincere proponent of peace! Which peace, one may ask...for this is the same enemy that has killed thousands of your people! Which peace...for this is the same enemy that has destroyed homes with their residents inside, and obliterated entire cities along with their inhabitants! Which peace...for this very enemy has kept the tyrant Bashar in power, rescued him from the brink of collapse, and boosted the ranks of the Rafidhi occupier to stop your forces from taking Damascus.

The International System and the states of the West and the East that are fighting against you do so because you seek to establish a true Islamic government. They have divided the roles amongst themselves to deceive you. Do not obey them, for they are deceivers. Do not obey they, for they are criminals. Do not obey them, for they are insolent disbelievers who will break every oath and promise. Reflect on these noble verses: 'O'

you who believe! If you obey those who disbelieve they will turn you back upon your heels, so you will turn back losers. Nay! Allah is your Patron and He is the best of the helpers. We will cast terror into the hearts of those who disbelieve, because they set up with Allah that for which He has sent down no authority and their abode is Hellfire, and evil is the abode of the unjust. And certainly Allah made good to you His promise when you slew them by His permission, until you became weak-hearted and disputed about the affair and disobeyed after He had shown you that which you loved; of you were some who desired this world and of you were some who desired the hereafter; then He turned you away from them that He might try you; and He has certainly pardoned you, and Allah is Gracious to the believers.' [Aal-e-Imran: 149-152]

These noble verses clearly explain that the initiative is in your hands. And the way to seize the initiative is by turning your back on the disbelievers and their allies and being on your guard against them; by making Allah alone, Who has no Partners, your Aide and Helper, besides everyone else; and by protecting your ranks from disputation, disagreement and disobedience of Allah. If you do so, Allah will strike fear in to the hearts of your enemy and fulfill His promise of giving you victory over them.

My Mujahid brothers in our beloved Shām: We must be proud of our Religion and seek honor in Jihad. We must be proud of our enmity of America and Russia, for they are the Pharaohs of this age. Anyone who stands up to them has a right to be proud; anyone who tries to appease them must be ashamed of himself. So let us be proud of the anger of the West and its hatred for us. Let us be proud of the West's profiling of us as 'terrorists', for this is no allegation; it is a badge of honor. So let us be proud of having enraged them, because we will be rewarded by Allah for this, with His permission. Allah, the Glorious, says, 'Nor do they tread a path which enrages the disbelievers, nor do they attain from the enemy what they attain, but a good work is written down to them on account of it; surely Allah does not waste the reward of the doers of good.' [al-Tauba: 120]

My Muslim Ummah, my Muslim brothers from Indonesia to al-Maghreb and the Muslim lands that lie in between...This is not an ordeal for al-Shām; it is an ordeal targeting Islam itself. The enemy does not want to see Islam be established in any form. The Crusader enemy along with its Rafidhi allies are occupying our Islamic lands bit by bit. Ask Iraq and Yemen if you wish, and they will inform you about the reality of the matter. While in Shām, the Land of Ribaat and Jihad, the enemy is exerting its fullest to annihilate our people, with its eyes firmly set on the occupation of the Land of the Two Sanctuaries.

To enable the Muslims of Shām to stop this International Crusader-Rafidhi aggression, Muslims- all Muslims- must stand shoulder to shoulder with them, and offer all kinds of help, support and encouragement. The body of the Muslim Ummah- specifically its Syrian wound- has severely deteriorated, and is in need of urgent treatment. If we are able to treat this wound, we should be able to treat the other wounds as well. And if we ignore this wound, the injury will only spread and we will be left unable to treat the whole body.

Extreme vigilance and urgent, organized, serious action is needed to support the people of Shām before it's too late. The cause of al-Shām must be the cause of the entire Ummah. We want al-Shām to emerge victorious over the tyrants. We want it to be ruled by the noble Shariah. We want its people to live a life of honor and dignity. We wish to see the armies of Mujahideen setting out from Shām to liberate al-Quds (with the permission of Allah)... instead of Shām itself turning into another Palestine, God Forbid.

Faced with these hopes and fears, the Mujahideen are in utmost need of your help, my Muslim brothers... so that they may continue their journey towards its destined goal.

O' Muslims: Embody the meaning of a single body, embody the meaning of Islamic Brotherhood.

Will your brothers starve, while you are satiated?

Will your brothers live in fear, while you live in safety?

Your help for them is the oxygen which they cannot do without, and your setting out to join them is the nourishment without which they cannot survive...so do not cut off this supply of oxygen and nourishment.

Your participation in the Jihad of al-Shām will be a source of blessing for you. Everything in Jihad in al-Shām assumes a heavenly dimension.

A young Muslim, even if he is among those who have transgressed against their selves, becomes a Mujahid, Muhajir and a hero merely by reaching the land of Shām...perhaps to be chosen by Allah as a martyr eventually...Every word spoken in support of the cause of Shām is not an ordinary word; it is the word of truth, a truthful tweet perhaps, which will be a source of reward in the Hereafter. Every Dirham spent for the cause of Shām assumes another dimension... becoming a mujahid, otherworldly Dirham which will rise to defend its owner on the Day of Judgment.

So every Muslim who truly believes in Allah and the Day of Judgment must support his brothers in Shām in whatever way he or she can.

O' youth of Islam...make this your motto: Either Islam shall live honorably or we shall die.

O' Allah, be a Helper and Supporter of our brothers in Shām.

And Allah is All-Powerful over His affairs, but most people know not.

And our last prayer is that all Praise belongs to Allah, the Lord of the Worlds.